

Auditing Procedures Report

Issued under P.A. 2 of 1968, as amended and P.A. 71 of 1919, as amended.

Local Unit of Government Type <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Twp <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		Local Unit Name Cass County Road Commission	County Cass
Fiscal Year End September 30, 2006	Opinion Date December 14, 2006	Date Audit Report Submitted to State January 9, 2007	

We affirm that:

We are certified public accountants licensed to practice in Michigan.

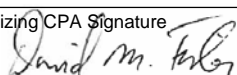
We further affirm the following material, "no" responses have been disclosed in the financial statements, including the notes, or in the Management Letter (report of comments and recommendations).

YES ☒ NO ☐ Check each applicable box below. (See instructions for further detail.)

- ☒ ☐ All required component units/funds/agencies of the local unit are included in the financial statements and/or disclosed in the reporting entity notes to the financial statements as necessary.
- ☒ ☐ There are no accumulated deficits in one or more of this unit's unreserved fund balances/unrestricted net assets (P.A. 275 of 1980) or the local unit has not exceeded its budget for expenditures.
- ☒ ☐ The local unit is in compliance with the Uniform Chart of Accounts issued by the Department of Treasury.
- ☒ ☐ The local unit has adopted a budget for all required funds.
- ☒ ☐ A public hearing on the budget was held in accordance with State statute.
- ☒ ☐ The local unit has not violated the Municipal Finance Act, an order issued under the Emergency Municipal Loan Act, or other guidance as issued by the Local Audit and Finance Division.
- ☒ ☐ The local unit has not been delinquent in distributing tax revenues that were collected for another taxing unit.
- ☒ ☐ The local unit only holds deposits/investments that comply with statutory requirements.
- ☒ ☐ The local unit has no illegal or unauthorized expenditures that came to our attention as defined in the *Bulletin for Audits of Local Units of Government in Michigan*, as revised (see Appendix H of Bulletin).
- ☒ ☐ There are no indications of defalcation, fraud or embezzlement, which came to our attention during the course of our audit that have not been previously communicated to the Local Audit and Finance Division (LAFD). If there is such activity that has not been communicated, please submit a separate report under separate cover.
- ☒ ☐ The local unit is free of repeated comments from previous years.
- ☒ ☐ The audit opinion is UNQUALIFIED.
- ☒ ☐ The local unit has complied with GASB 34 or GASB 34 as modified by MCGAA Statement #7 and other generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).
- ☒ ☐ The board or council approves all invoices prior to payment as required by charter or statute.
- ☒ ☐ To our knowledge, bank reconciliations that were reviewed were performed timely.

If a local unit of government (authorities and commissions included) is operating within the boundaries of the audited entity and is not included in this or any other audit report, nor do they obtain a stand-alone audit, please enclose the name(s), address(es), and a description(s) of the authority and/or commission.

I, the undersigned, certify that this statement is complete and accurate in all respects.

We have enclosed the following:	Enclosed	Not Required (enter a brief justification)		
Financial Statements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
The letter of Comments and Recommendations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Other (Describe)	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Certified Public Accountant (Firm Name) REHMANN ROBSON		Telephone Number 517-787-6503		
Street Address 675 Robinson Road		City Jackson	State MI	Zip 49203
Authorizing CPA Signature 		Printed Name David M. Fisher, CPA		License Number 10337

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
(a Component Unit of Cass County)

Cassopolis, Michigan

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For The Year Ended September 30, 2006



REHMANN ROBSON

Certified Public Accountants

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
(a Component Unit of Cass County)

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REHMANN ROBSON

Certified Public Accountants

A member of THE REHMANN GROUP



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

December 14, 2006

Members of the Board of County
Road Commissioners
County of Cass, Michigan
Cassopolis, Michigan

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the **CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION**, a component unit of Cass County, Michigan, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2006, which collectively comprise the Road Commission's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Cass County Road Commission's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the **Cass County Road Commission** as of September 30, 2006, and the respective changes in financial position thereof and the budgetary comparison for the general operating fund and the parks fund for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated December 14, 2006, on our consideration of Cass County Road Commissions' internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 3-8 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements which collectively comprise the Road Commission's basic financial statements. The schedules listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements of the **Cass County Road Commission**. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lehmann Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As management of the Cass County Road Commission, we offer the readers of the Road Commission's financial statement this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Road Commission for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2006.

Financial Highlights

This is the third year of reporting as provided in Statement No. 34 as directed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The GASB is charged with developing generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) for governmental entities and is the ultimate authority of GAAP for state and local governments. Reporting as provided in Statement No. 34 reflects the inclusion of the value of "Infrastructure" in the county of Cass. Infrastructure as defined by GASB 34 includes the cost of bridges (spans of over 20'), gravel roads, paved roads, construction of roads and traffic signals, less the applicable depreciation.

Net assets may, over time, enable governmental agencies to determine their overall fiscal position. The Road Commission's net assets exceeded liabilities by \$33,319,150 at the end of the 2006 fiscal year.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to provide a basis of understanding the Road Commission's basic financial statements. These statements comprise three components: (1) government-wide financial statements (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. Supplementary information is also provided for additional informational purposes.

To simplify financial reporting and improve readability, the government-wide financial statements and the fund statements have been combined to report the statement of net assets and general fund balance sheet on a single page and the statement of activities and general fund revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance on a single page. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-wide Statements

The statement of net assets presents information on all the Commission's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two report *as net assets*. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as an indicator of the Commission's overall fiscal position.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the Commission's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal period. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, *regardless of the timing of related cash flows*. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in past or future fiscal periods (for instance, depreciation expense associated with capital assets).

Both of the component unit financial statements distinguish the function of the Commission which is principally supported by state shared revenues (operating grants). The governmental activities of the Commission include providing construction, repair, maintenance and snow removal of primary and local roads, local roadside parks and Dodd park within Cass County, as well as the operation of parks owned by the County of Cass.

The government-wide financial statements include the Commission and the county park fund. In this report, financial information for the Commission is reported separately from the financial information presented for Cass County which reports the Commission as a component unit.

Fund financial statements. A *fund* is grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Commission, like other units of state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The activity of the Commission is accounted for in a governmental fund (General Fund) and the activity of the county owned parks is accounted for in the special revenue fund (Parks).

Governmental funds. *Governmental funds* (General Fund) are used to account for essentially the same function reported in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, general fund financial statements focus on *near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources*, as well as on *balances of spendable resources* available at the end of the fiscal period. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of the general fund is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for the general fund with similar information presented for *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the general fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between the general fund and the government-wide statements.

The Commission maintains two government funds (the General Fund and the Parks Fund). Information is presented in the governmental funds balance sheet and in the general fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances. The general fund is a major fund and the park fund is a non-major fund for financial reporting purposes as defined by GASB Statement #34.

The Commission adopts an annual appropriated budget for the general fund and parks fund. Budgetary comparison statements have been provided herein to demonstrate compliance with those budgets.

The Commission does not maintain proprietary nor fiduciary funds.

Notes to the financial statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the Commission's financial statements.

Other information. In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also present certain *required supplementary information*. This is limited to this management discussion and analysis.

Comparative analysis of the government-wide data is presented in this report with the previous fiscal period's data. It should be noted that the 2005 fiscal year covered a period of 9 months, whereas the 2006 period covered 12 months, due to the County of Cass (including its component units) opting to change its fiscal reporting period to a year ending September 30th, with 2005 being the first fiscal year so affected.

Condensed Statement of Net Assets:	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Current and other assets	\$ 2,587,412	\$ 3,716,967
Capital assets	<u>37,791,392</u>	<u>38,070,620</u>
Total assets	40,378,804	41,787,587
Long-term liabilities outstanding	7,929,563	7,715,371
Other liabilities	<u>544,257</u>	<u>753,066</u>
Total liabilities	8,473,820	8,468,437
Net assets:		
Invested in capital assets	30,001,392	30,505,620
Unrestricted	<u>1,903,592</u>	<u>2,813,530</u>
Total net assets	<u>\$31,904,984</u>	<u>\$33,319,150</u>
Condensed Statement of Activities:		
	<u>9 months</u>	<u>12 months</u>
Revenue		
Charges for services	\$ 1,955,788	\$ 2,095,972
Operating grants and contributions	4,359,536	5,836,668
Capital grants and contributions		
Interest revenue	<u>29,769</u>	<u>48,717</u>
Total revenue	<u>6,345,093</u>	<u>7,981,357</u>
Expenses		
Public Works	4,905,386	6,241,907
Debt Service - Interest only	<u>248,847</u>	<u>325,284</u>
Total expenses	<u>5,154,233</u>	<u>6,567,191</u>
Increase in Net Assets	<u>\$ 1,190,860</u>	<u>\$1,414,166</u>

Capital Assets and Debt Administration	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Capital Assets		
Land - not depreciated	\$ 476,756	\$ 92,146
Infrastructure (Land improvements not depreciated)	<u>10,155,841</u>	<u>10,475,328</u>
Sub-total	<u>10,632,597</u>	<u>10,567,474</u>
Land improvements (depreciated)	652,473	655,293
Buildings	7,488,362	7,623,862
Road equipment	7,832,494	7,981,269
Shop equipment	200,965	205,173
Office equipment	150,114	152,811
Engineering equipment	48,829	48,829
Yard & Storage equipment	153,954	168,189
Depletable assets	78,484	366,771
Infrastructure	<u>39,797,220</u>	<u>41,778,688</u>
Sub-total	<u>56,402,895</u>	<u>58,980,885</u>
Accumulated Depreciation		
Land improvements (depreciated)	188,003	256,812
Buildings and improvements	844,391	1,153,591
Equipment	6,774,272	7,148,111
Depletable assets	76,662	73,463
Infrastructure	<u>21,360,722</u>	<u>22,845,762</u>
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>29,244,100</u>	<u>31,477,739</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated - net	<u>27,158,795</u>	<u>27,503,146</u>
Governmental activities capital assets - net	<u>\$37,791,392</u>	<u>\$38,070,620</u>

Infrastructure additions of \$2,300,955 were added during the year ended September 30, 2006.

Long-term Debt

Bonds Payable	\$ 7,790,000	\$ 7,565,000
Compensated absences	<u>139,563</u>	<u>150,371</u>
Total	<u>\$ 7,929,563</u>	<u>\$ 7,715,371</u>

No additional bonded indebtedness was added in 2006. Additional information can be found in Note 4 to the financial statements.

Economic Factors and Road Fund Budgetary Highlights

The Road Commission amended its FY 2006 budget during the year to reflect increased revenues from the sale of additional Federal Aid Dollars to MDOT to fund road projects. The continuing increase in fuel and energy sector costs affected the budget and will continue if these costs continue to rise in the future. Final revenues exceeded expenditures \$937,785 in the general fund, a change from the anticipation that, for the third year in a row, expenditures would exceed revenue.

Due to a cash flow shortage situation during the fiscal year, generally caused by fuel cost increases and reductions in MTF funds, a layoff of union employees and a reduction in hours for administrative staff occurred between February and May. The decision to layoff union employees was made by the union membership, and reduction in hours was selected by administrative employees.

In the past two years 10 positions at the road commission have remained unfilled to restrain costs at a time when costs continue to rise faster than revenues. It is anticipated that in FY 2007 this attrition will be maximized and the lower limit of employment will be reached. If costs continue to escalate beyond revenues then various work and equipment purchases will have to be put off to cover basic employee costs and benefits.

Other budgetary amendments made in FY 2006:

- To reflect moving anticipated construction costs for the intersection of M-62 and Redfield Street to FY 2007.
- To reflect increased costs of construction to the Chain Lake Street Bridge over Christiana Creek.
- To reflect revenues from the sale of various lake properties at Big Fish Lake, Twin Lakes, Birch Lake, Donnell Lake, and including the final settlement concerning the sale of property at Shavehead Lake (\$ 372,500).
- To reflect revenue from the sale of the Shurte Street gravel pit (\$ 60,000).
- To reflect revenue from the sale of one of the homes located on the Sibley farm (\$ 145,000).
- Township and village projects were increased in total, but it is anticipated that reduced levels of township and village projects will exist in FY 2007 as monies for road projects competes with other local government needs.
- To reflect costs for new subdivision construction associated with new public roads by private entities.
- To reflect additional revenue from a crude oil settlement payment from the 1970's.

- To reflect costs and revenues associated with completion of the Porter Township Sewer road paving work for the Board of Public Works.
- Primary and local winter costs were decreased due to extended periods of warm weather in January and February by almost \$700,000. Primary and local budget costs for tree removal was decreased in these accounts a total of \$100,000.

The 2005 fiscal period for the Road Commission was from January to September to comply with the requirement (as a component unit of the County of Cass) of changing fiscal period to coincide with the change made by the county. All years thereafter will have a fiscal period from October 1 to September 30.

For all fiscal periods beginning with October 1, 2006, MTF funds will reflect revenue from October to September as required by GASB Statement 34. If the general economic slowdown results in decreased MTF funds, the appropriate adjustments will be made to the budget.

Requests for information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of Commission finances for all those with an interest in the component unit's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Finance Director, Cass County Road Commission, PO Box 68, Cassopolis MI 49031.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET

SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

	Major Funds		Total		
	General		Governmental		Statement
	Operating	Parks	Funds	Adjustments	of Net Assets
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,758,929	\$ 188,412	\$ 1,947,341	\$ -	\$ 1,947,341
Accounts receivable					
Motor vehicle highway funds	766,088	-	766,088	-	766,088
Due on county road agreements	48,092	-	48,092	-	48,092
Other	29,164		29,164	-	29,164
Due from other funds	-	146,524	146,524		146,524
Inventories					
Road materials	269,758	-	269,758	-	269,758
Equipment material and parts	149,691	-	149,691	-	149,691
Prepaid items	360,309	-	360,309	-	360,309
Capital assets					
Assets not being depreciated	-	-	-	10,567,474	10,567,474
Assets being depreciated	-	-	-	27,503,146	27,503,146
Total assets	\$ 3,382,031	\$ 334,936	\$ 3,716,967	38,070,620	41,787,587
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable	\$ 278,124	\$ 627	\$ 278,751	\$ -	\$ 278,751
Accrued liabilities	79,108	578	79,686	-	79,686
Advances from townships	9,665	-	9,665	-	9,665
Escrow deposits	18,362	220,078	238,440	-	238,440
Due to other funds	146,524		146,524	-	146,524
Long-term liabilities					
Due within one year	-	-	-	260,000	260,000
Due after one year	-	-	-	7,455,371	7,455,371
Total liabilities	531,783	221,283	753,066	7,715,371	8,468,437
Fund Balance/Net Assets					
Fund balance					
Reserved for					
Inventories	419,449	-	419,449	(419,449)	-
Prepaid items	360,309	-	360,309	(360,309)	-
Unreserved,					
Undesignated	2,070,490	113,653	2,184,143	(2,184,143)	-
Total fund balance	2,850,248	113,653	2,963,901	(2,963,901)	-
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 3,382,031	\$ 334,936	\$ 3,716,967		
Net Assets:					
Investment in capital assets, net of related debt				30,505,620	30,505,620
Unrestricted				2,813,530	2,813,530
Total net assets				\$ 33,319,150	\$ 33,319,150

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to Statement of Net Assets

SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

Fund balances - governmental funds	\$ 2,963,901
Amounts reported for <i>governmental activities</i> in the statement of net assets are different because:	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.	38,070,620
Long - term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and are not reported in the funds:	
Bonds payable	(7,565,000)
Certain liabilities, such as compensated absences, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds:	
Deduct - compensated absences payable	<u>(150,371)</u>
Net assets of governmental activities	<u><u>\$ 33,319,150</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENTAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

	<u>Major Funds</u>		<u>Total</u>		
	<u>General</u>	<u>Parks</u>	<u>Governmental</u>	<u>Adjustments</u>	<u>Statement of</u>
EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES	Operating		Funds		Activities
Current:					
Public works	\$ 6,428,818	\$ 81,509	\$ 6,510,327	\$ (268,420)	\$ 6,241,907
Debt service:					
Principal	225,000	-	225,000	(225,000)	-
Interest	325,284	-	325,284	-	325,284
TOTAL EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES	6,979,102	81,509	7,060,611	(493,420)	6,567,191
PROGRAM REVENUES					
Charges for services	2,078,679	17,293	2,095,972	-	2,095,972
Operating grants and contributions	5,795,418	41,250	5,836,668	-	5,836,668
TOTAL PROGRAM REVENUES	7,874,097	58,543	7,932,640	-	7,932,640
NET PROGRAM REVENUES (EXPENSES)					1,365,449
GENERAL REVENUES					
Interest revenue	42,790	5,927	48,717	-	48,717
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	937,785	(17,039)	920,746	(920,746)	-
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS				1,414,166	1,414,166
FUND BALANCE/NET ASSETS,					
Beginning of year	1,912,463	130,692	2,043,155	29,861,829	31,904,984
FUND BALANCE/NET ASSETS, End of year	\$ 2,850,248	\$ 113,653	\$ 2,963,901	\$ 30,355,249	\$ 33,319,150

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance to the Statement of Activities

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

Net change in fund balances - governmental funds	\$ 920,746
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Amounts reported for *governmental activities* in the statement of activities
are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the
statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated
useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.

Add - non-depreciable land improvements	319,487
Add - depreciable capital outlay	2,531,584
Deduct - depreciation expense	(2,425,000)
Deduct - equipment retirements	(146,843)

Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the funds but not in the statement
of activities:

Add - bond principal payments	225,000
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Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current
financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in the funds.

Deduct - increase in compensated absences	<u>(10,808)</u>
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Change in net assets of governmental activities	<u><u>\$ 1,414,166</u></u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL GENERAL OPERATING FUND

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance
REVENUE				
Permits	\$ 40,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 32,460	\$ 2,460
Intergovernmental:				
State sources	5,643,106	5,639,306	5,276,534	(362,772)
Federal sources	430,400	540,865	435,027	(105,838)
Local sources	1,433,923	1,345,680	1,606,746	261,066
Charges for services	15,000	32,000	22,918	(9,082)
Interest and rentals	14,052	30,260	42,790	12,530
Other	70,000	628,900	500,412	(128,488)
TOTAL REVENUE	7,646,481	8,247,011	7,916,887	(330,124)
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
Construction	682,000	419,679	421,510	1,831
Primary structural improvements	862,000	450,000	352,986	(97,014)
Local structural improvements	1,178,000	1,710,394	1,536,879	(173,515)
Primary maintenance	1,448,903	1,182,493	1,161,882	(20,611)
Local maintenance	2,511,810	2,111,528	2,195,992	84,464
Equipment - net	(40,000)	204,460	182,288	(22,172)
Administrative - net	664,789	658,900	585,967	(72,933)
Traffic control	253,879	238,879	206,400	(32,479)
Other	208,542	331,400	321,651	(9,749)
Capital outlay - net	(507,500)	(413,317)	(536,737)	(123,420)
Debt service	552,440	552,440	550,284	(2,156)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	7,814,863	7,446,856	6,979,102	(467,754)
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	(168,382)	800,155	937,785	137,630
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	1,912,463	1,912,463	1,912,463	-
FUND BALANCE, End of year	\$ 1,744,081	\$ 2,712,618	\$ 2,850,248	\$ 137,630

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL PARKS FUND

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
REVENUE				
Intergovernmental:				
Local sources	\$ 41,250	\$ 41,250	\$ 41,250	\$ -
Charges for services	14,420	16,950	17,293	343
Interest	1,500	1,500	5,927	4,427
	<u>57,170</u>	<u>59,700</u>	<u>64,470</u>	<u>4,770</u>
TOTAL REVENUE				
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
Public works	78,000	78,000	81,509	3,509
	<u>78,000</u>	<u>78,000</u>	<u>81,509</u>	<u>3,509</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	(20,830)	(18,300)	(17,039)	1,261
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	130,692	130,692	130,692	-
FUND BALANCE, End of year	<u><u>\$ 109,862</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 112,392</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 113,653</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,261</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of the Cass County Road Commission (the “Road Commission”) conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applied to governmental units. The following is a summary of the significant policies.

Reporting Entity

The Cass County Road Commission, referred to as the Road Commission, is a discrete component unit of the County of Cass, Michigan. The Road Commission was established pursuant to the county road law (MCL 224.1), and is governed by a three member Board of County Road Commissioners appointed by the County Board of Commissioners.

The criteria established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 14, “The Financial Reporting Entity”, for determining the reporting entity includes having significant financial or operational relationships. Based on the above criteria, these financial statements present the Cass County Road Commission, a discretely presented component unit of Cass County, and include the Road Commission General Operating Fund and Parks Fund.

The Road Commission General Operating Fund is used to control the expenditures of Michigan Transportation Fund monies distributed to the County, which are earmarked by law for street and highway purposes. The Board of County Road Commissioners has responsibility for the administration of the Road Commission’s General Operating Fund.

Basis of Presentation

Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net assets and the statement of activities) report information on all of the activities of the primary government. *Governmental activities* are supported by charges for services and intergovernmental revenues.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. *Direct expenses* are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. *Program revenues* include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues.

As permitted by GASB Statement No. 34, the Road Commission uses an alternative approach reserved for single program governments to present combined government-wide and fund financial statements by using a columnar format that reconciles individual line items of fund financial data to government-wide data in a separate column. Accordingly, this is presented in the Statement of Net Assets and Governmental Funds Balance Sheet and the Statement of Activities and Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the aforementioned financial statements.

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Measurement Focus Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements (statement of net assets and the statement of activity) are reported using the *economic resources measurement focus* and the *accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources measurement focus* and the *modified accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be *available* when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences not expected to be paid in the current year and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

State and grant revenue, licenses and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the government.

The government reports the following major governmental funds:

The *general fund* is the government's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government.

The County *parks fund* accounts for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for County park operations.

Budgetary Data

All governmental funds are under formal budgetary control. Budgets shown in the financial statements are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), which is the modified accrual basis used to reflect actual results, and consist only of those amounts contained in the formal budget approved or as amended by the Board of County Road Commissioners. Budgets for the General Operating and Special Revenue Funds are adopted on a functional basis. Excess expenditures over budget at this level are disclosed on the Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual – for the general and parks funds.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Amounts reported as cash and cash equivalents include bank checking, savings and certificate of deposit accounts.

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Inventory

Inventory consists of various operating parts, supplies, and road material, and the cost is recognized using the consumption method (inventories recorded as expenditures when they are used). Inventories are stated at average cost determined on a first-in, first-out method, except for road materials, which are determined on the average cost method, and are not in excess of fair value.

Prepaid Items

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit future periods are recorded as prepaid items.

Fund Balance Reservations

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balances for amounts that are not available for appropriation.

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, equipment and infrastructure assets (roads, bridges and similar items) are reported in the government-wide statements. The Road Commission defines capital assets as assets with an initial cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date donated.

The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized.

Capital assets are recorded as capital expenditures at the time of purchase in the fund financial statements (statement of general fund revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance) and are subsequently capitalized on the government-wide statements through an adjustment to the governmental fund column.

The Uniform Accounting Procedures prescribed for Michigan County Road Commissions provide for recording depreciation in the General Operating Fund as a charge to various expense accounts and a credit to the depreciation contra expense account. Accordingly, the annual depreciation expense does not affect the available operating fund balance of the General Operating Fund.

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Depreciation is recorded over the estimated useful lives (ranging from five to forty years) of the assets, using the sum-of-years digits method for road equipment and straight-line method for all other capital assets and infrastructure as follows:

<u>Asset Category</u>	<u>Useful Life in Years</u>
Buildings and improvements	40
Equipment	5 to 8
Infrastructure	8 to 50

Deferred Compensation Plan

The Road Commission offers its employees a deferred compensation plan created in accordance with IRS section 457. The plan, available to all salaried Commission employees, permits them to defer a portion of their current salary until future years. A trust has been established for the plan assets and the related assets and liability are not included in the Road Commission's financial statements.

Long-term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in governmental activities. Significant bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount. As permitted by GASB Statement No. 34, the Road Commission has elected to apply the provisions related to bond premiums, discounts, and issuance costs on a prospective basis.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

Compensated Absences

Full-time Road Commission employees are granted vacation pay in varying amounts based on length of service. A maximum vacation time of thirty (30) days may be accumulated and allowed to be carried over for hourly employees. Salaried employees are not allowed to carry over vacation hours. Accumulated unpaid vacation pay amounts are 100% vested and are accrued when incurred in the government-wide financial statements. Additionally, full-time employees are entitled one day sick pay per month worked. Effective July 1, 1995, any employee who has an accumulation of more than thirty (30) sick days at June 30, shall be paid (50) percent for those sick days in excess of 30.

Payment will be made the first pay date in July using the employee's hourly pay rate in effect at June 30 of that year. Upon retirement, the employee shall receive fifty (50) percent of accumulated sick days. If an employee dies in the course of employment, the designated beneficiary of the deceased receives 100% of accumulated sick days. There is no liability for terminations other than retirement or death.

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. CASH DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Deposits

At September 30, 2006, the amounts of the Road Commission's deposits were as follows:

Petty cash	\$ 1,000
Bank deposits (checking and savings accounts)	71,725
Held by Cass County (bank deposits, including checking accounts and certificates of deposit)	<u>1,874,616</u>
	<u>\$ 1,947,341</u>

Statutes authorize the Road Commission to invest funds in the following:

- Bonds, securities, other obligations and repurchase agreements of the United States, or an agency or instrumentality of the United States
- Certificates of deposit, savings accounts, deposit accounts or depository receipts of a qualified financial institution
- Commercial paper rated at the time of purchase within the 2 highest classifications established by not less than 2 standard rating services and that matures not more than 270 days after the date of purchase
- Bankers acceptances of United States banks
- Obligations of the State of Michigan and its political subdivisions that, at the time of purchase are rated as investment grade by at least one standard rating service
- Mutual funds registered under the investment company act of 1940 with the authority to purchase only investment vehicles that are legal for direct investment by a public corporation
- External investment pools as authorized by Public Act 20 as amended through 12/31/97

Deposit and Investment risk

Interest Rate Risk. State law limits the allowable investments and the maturities of some of the allowable investments as identified in the listing of authorized investments above. The Road Commission's investment policy does not have specific limits in excess of state law on investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates. The Road Commission has no investments at September 30, 2006.

Credit Risk. State law limits investments to specific government securities, certificates of deposits and bank accounts with qualified financial institutions, commercial paper with specific maximum maturities and ratings when purchased, bankers acceptances of specific financial institutions, qualified mutual funds and qualified external investment pools as identified in the list of authorized investments above. The Road Commission's investment policy does not have specific limits in excess of state law on investment credit risk. The Road Commission has no investments at September 30, 2006.

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Custodial Credit Risk – Deposits. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Road Commission's deposits may not be returned. State law does not require and the Road Commission does not have a policy for deposit custodial credit risk. As of September 30, 2006, \$361,311 of the Road Commission's bank balance of \$479,649 was exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and uncollateralized. Deposits in the amount of \$1,874,616 held by Cass County may be partially covered by federal depository insurance. The amount of federal depository insurance is determined for the County as a whole, but cannot be separately identified for the Road Commission.

Custodial Credit Risk – Investments. For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Road Commission will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. State law does not require and the Road Commission does not have a policy for investment custodial credit risk.

Concentration of Credit Risk. State law limits allowable investments but does not limit concentration of credit risk as identified in the list of authorized investments above. The Road Commission's investment policy does not have specific limits in excess of state law on concentration of credit risk. The Road Commission has no investments at September 30, 2006.

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

3. CAPITAL ASSETS

Changes in the components of the capital assets are summarized as follows:

	Balance October 1, 2005	Reclassifications and Adjustments	Additions	Deductions	Balance September 30, 2006
Capital assets not being depreciated:					
Land	\$ 476,756	\$ (234,610)	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 92,146
Infrastructure - land improvements	10,155,841	-	319,487	-	10,475,328
Total capital assets not being depreciated - net	10,632,597	(234,610)	319,487	150,000	10,567,474
Capital assets being depreciated:					
Land improvements	652,473	-	2,820	-	655,293
Buildings and improvements	7,488,362	-	135,500	-	7,623,862
Road equipment	7,832,494	-	336,472	187,697	7,981,269
Shop equipment	200,965	-	4,208	-	205,173
Office equipment	150,114	-	3,204	507	152,811
Engineers' equipment	48,829	-	-	-	48,829
Yard and storage	153,954	-	14,235	-	168,189
Depleteable assets	78,484	234,610	53,677	-	366,771
Infrastructure	39,797,220	-	1,981,468	-	41,778,688
Subtotal	56,402,895	234,610	2,531,584	188,204	58,980,885
Accumulated depreciation and depletion:					
Land improvements	188,003	-	68,809	-	256,812
Buildings and improvements	844,391	-	309,200	-	1,153,591
Equipment	6,774,272	-	562,001	188,162	7,148,111
Depleteable assets	76,662	-	-	3,199	73,463
Infrastructure	21,360,772	-	1,484,990	-	22,845,762
Total accumulated depreciation and depletion	29,244,100	-	2,425,000	191,361	31,477,739
Total capital assets being depreciated - net	27,158,795	234,610	106,584	(3,157)	27,503,146
Governmental activities capital assets - net	\$ 37,791,392	\$ -	\$ 426,071	\$ 146,843	\$ 38,070,620

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

4. LONG-TERM DEBT

Long-term debt of the Road Commission consists of the following:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>	<u>Due Within One Year</u>
Bonds payable	\$ 7,790,000	\$ -	\$ 225,000	\$ 7,565,000	\$ 225,000
Compensated absences	139,563	10,808	-	150,371	35,000
Totals	<u>\$ 7,929,563</u>	<u>\$ 10,808</u>	<u>\$ 225,000</u>	<u>\$ 7,715,371</u>	<u>\$ 260,000</u>

Long-term debt at September 30, 2006 is comprised of the following individual obligations:

Michigan Transportation Fund Bonds (2003), payable
in annual installments from \$105,000 to \$255,000,
plus interest from 2.00% to 4.50% per annum;
final payment due in October, 2027

\$ 3,655,000

Michigan Transportation Fund Bonds (2002), payable
in annual installments from \$55,000 to \$290,000,
plus interest from 3.75% to 5.125% per annum;
final payment due in October, 2026

3,910,000

Total bonds payable

7,565,000

Accrued vacation and sick leave

150,371

Total long-term debt

\$ 7,715,371

Debt service requirements to maturity for the bonded indebtedness of the Road Commission are as follows:

<u>Years Ending September 30</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2007	\$ 225,000	\$ 435,284	\$ 660,284
2008	230,000	429,059	659,059
2009	240,000	426,869	666,869
2010	250,000	424,150	674,150
2011	260,000	420,350	680,350
2012-2016	1,450,000	2,000,793	3,450,793
2017-2021	1,820,000	1,834,523	3,654,523
2022-2026	2,305,000	1,550,046	3,855,046
2027-2028	785,000	535,251	1,320,251
Total	<u>\$ 7,565,000</u>	<u>\$ 8,056,325</u>	<u>\$ 15,621,325</u>

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

5. INTERFUND RECEIVABLES AND PAYABLES AND TRANSFERS

At September 30, 2006, interfund receivables and payables were as follows:

	<u>Due From</u>	<u>Due To</u>
General Fund	\$ -	\$ 146,524
Special Revenue Fund:		
County Park Fund	<u>146,524</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 146,524</u>	<u>\$ 146,524</u>

The Road Commission has interfund balances between its two funds. The sum of all balances presented in the tables above agrees with the sum of interfund balances presented in the statements of net assets/balance sheet for governmental funds. These interfund balances resulted primarily from the time lag between the dates that (1) interfund goods and services are provided or reimbursable expenditures occur, (2) transactions are recorded in the accounting system, and (3) payments between funds are made. The receivable from the parks special revenue fund to the general fund is due to payments made from the parks fund on behalf of the general fund expected to be reimbursed in the ensuing fiscal year.

6. DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION PLAN

The Cass County Road Commission provides pension benefits for substantially all of its full-time employees through a defined contribution plan, called the Cass County Road Commission Retirement Plan. In a defined contribution plan, benefits depend solely on amounts contributed to the plan, plus investment earnings. Employees are eligible to participate after completing one year of service. The plan requires the Road Commission to contribute, on behalf of each covered employee, seven percent (7%) of the employees' compensation, except overtime and disability payments made to hourly employees. Plan provisions and contribution requirements are established and may be amended by the Board of the Road Commission.

Participants may make voluntary contributions into the plan. The Road Commission's contributions for each employee (and interest allocated to the employee's account) are partially vested after three (3) years of continuous service and fully vested after ten (10) years of continuous service. The employee contributions become fully vested at the time of their contribution to the plan. Road Commission contributions for, and interest forfeited by, employees who leave employment before ten years of service are used to reduce the Road Commission's current-period contribution requirement. Vesting is based on years of participation in the plan. If the employee withdraws from the plan, that period of time is not included as time vested.

The Road Commission made the required contribution to the plan, amounting to \$113,662 and employee contributions were \$129,105 for the year ended September 30, 2006.

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Road Commission is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During 1982, the Michigan County Road Commission Self-Insurance Pool (MCRC SIP) was established by the Road Commissions in the State of Michigan as a public entity risk pool to operate a common risk management and insurance program for Road Commissions. Cass County Road Commission pays annual premiums to MCRC SIP for its general insurance coverage. The agreement for formation of the MCRC SIP provides that MCRC SIP will be self-sustaining through member premiums and will reinsure through commercial companies for claims in excess of \$100,000 for each insured event.

During 1980, Cass County Road Commission began participating in the County Road Association Self-Insurance Fund (CRASIF), a public entity risk pool established to operate a common risk management and insurance program for Road Commissions. Cass County Road Commission pays quarterly premiums to CRASIF for its workers' disability compensation insurance coverage. The agreement for formation of the CRASIF provides that CRASIF will be self-sustaining through member premiums and will reinsure through commercial companies for claims in excess of certain limits.

Cass County Road Commission continues to carry commercial insurance for all other risks of loss, including employee health and accident insurance. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three years. Management expects claims in excess of self-insurance coverage, if any, to be insignificant to the financial statements.

8. CONTINGENCIES

Under the terms of various Federal and State grants, periodic audits are required and certain costs may be questioned as not being appropriate expenditures under the terms of the grants. Such grants could lead to reimbursement to the grantor agencies. However, Road Commission management does not believe such disallowances, if any, will be material to the financial position of the Road Commission.

* * * * *

OPERATING FUND SCHEDULES

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE

GENERAL OPERATING FUND

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

	PRIMARY ROAD FUND	LOCAL ROAD FUND	COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION	TOTALS
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 3,646,753	\$ 3,578,588	\$ 691,546	\$ 7,916,887
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>2,015,126</u>	<u>4,768,225</u>	<u>195,751</u>	<u>6,979,102</u>
REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	1,631,627	(1,189,637)	495,795	937,785
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Internal transfers	<u>(547,014)</u>	<u>1,189,637</u>	<u>(642,623)</u>	<u>-</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	1,084,613	-	(146,828)	937,785
FUND BALANCE, beginning of year	<u>687,975</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,224,488</u>	<u>1,912,463</u>
FUND BALANCE, end of year	<u><u>\$ 1,772,588</u></u>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,077,660</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,850,248</u></u>

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES GENERAL OPERATING FUND

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

	PRIMARY ROAD FUND	LOCAL ROAD FUND	COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION	TOTALS
Intergovernmental:				
State:				
Michigan transportation fund:				
Engineering	\$ 6,271	\$ 3,729	\$ -	\$ 10,000
Allocation	2,541,233	1,699,013	-	4,240,246
Urban roads	268,335	69,932	-	338,267
Other	637,500	50,521	-	688,021
Federal:				
Bridge	-	269,443	-	269,443
Surface Transportation	165,584	-	-	165,584
Contributions:				
Cities and Townships	-	1,035,249	71,371	1,106,620
Other	-	445,754	54,372	500,126
Other revenue:				
Charges for services	4,062	4,947	13,909	22,918
Permits	-	-	32,460	32,460
Land and building sales	-	-	380,798	380,798
Net gain on equipment disposal	11,009	-	72,848	83,857
Interest and rentals	12,759	-	30,031	42,790
Other	-	-	35,757	35,757
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 3,646,753	\$ 3,578,588	\$ 691,546	\$ 7,916,887

CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES GENERAL OPERATING FUND

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

	PRIMARY ROAD FUND	LOCAL ROAD FUND	COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION	TOTALS
Primary road:				
Preservation - strucural improvements	\$ 352,986	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 352,986
Construction	53	-	-	53
Maintenance	882,249	-	-	882,249
Local road:				
Preservation - strucural improvements	-	1,536,879	-	1,536,879
Construction	-	421,457	-	421,457
Maintenance	-	1,892,885	-	1,892,885
Primary winter:				
Maintenance	279,633	-	-	279,633
Local winter:				
Maintenance	-	303,107	-	303,107
Primary traffic control	108,356		-	108,356
Local traffic control		98,044		98,044
Equipment expense - net	38,517	86,824	56,947	182,288
Administrative expense - net	161,886	424,081	-	585,967
Capital outlay - net	187,384	-	(724,121)	(536,737)
Debt Service:				
Principal	-	-	225,000	225,000
Interest	-	-	325,284	325,284
Other:				
Miscellaneous	4,062	4,948	312,641	321,651
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 2,015,126	\$ 4,768,225	\$ 195,751	\$ 6,979,102



REHMANN ROBSON

Certified Public Accountants

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE
AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

December 14, 2006

Members of the Board of County
Road Commissioners
County of Cass, Michigan
Cassopolis, Michigan

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the **CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION** as of and for the year ended September 30, 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated December 14, 2006. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Cass County Road Commission's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over compliance, financial reporting and/or operating efficiency that we have reported to management of the Cass County Road Commission in a separate letter dated December 14, 2006.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Cass County Road Commission's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Road Commissioners, others within the organization, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lehmann Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



REHMANN ROBSON

Certified Public Accountants

A member of THE REHMANN GROUP



December 14, 2006

To the Board of Commissioners of the
Cass County Road Commission
Cassopolis, Michigan

We have audited the financial statements of the Cass County Road Commission for the year ended September 30, 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated December 14, 2006. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

Our Responsibility Under Auditing Standards Generally Accepted in the United States of America and Government Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter dated November 21, 2006, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement and are fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance and because we did not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us.

As part of our audit, we considered the internal control of the Cass County Road Commission. Such considerations were solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of the Cass County Road Commission's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. However, the objective of our tests was not to provide an opinion on compliance with such provisions.

Significant Accounting Policies

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we advised management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Cass County Road Commission are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year. We noted no transactions entered into by the Cass County Road Commission during the year that were both significant and unusual, and of which, under professional standards, we are required to inform you, or transactions for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements were:

- Management's estimate of the original cost and accumulated depreciation of its infrastructure capital assets is based on current replacement costs, and an assumed rate of inflation from the dates of original acquisition/construction. We evaluated the key factors assumptions used to develop the original cost and accumulated depreciation of the Road Commission's infrastructure capital assets in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- Management's estimate of the useful lives of depreciable fixed assets is based on the length of time it is believed that those assets will provide some economic benefit in the future. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the useful lives of those assets in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Audit Adjustments

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define an audit adjustment as a proposed correction of the financial statements that, in our judgment, may not have been detected except through our auditing procedures. An audit adjustment may or may not indicate matters that could have a significant effect on the Cass County Road Commission's financial reporting process (that is, cause future financial statements to be materially misstated). In our judgment, none of the adjustments we proposed, whether recorded or unrecorded by the Cass County Road Commission, either individually or in the aggregate, indicate matters that could have a significant effect on the Cass County Road Commission's financial reporting process.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Issues Discussed Prior to Retention of Independent Auditors

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Cass County Road Commission's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no difficulties in dealing with management in performing our audit.

This letter is intended for the use of the Board of Commissioners, management, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lehmann Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'L'.

The Cass County Road Commission

Comments and Recommendations

For the Year Ended September 30, 2006

Internal Controls – Segregation of Duties

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and the safeguarding of the Road Commission's assets. In establishing appropriate internal controls, careful consideration must be given to the cost of a particular control and the related benefits to be received. Accordingly, management must make the difficult decision of what degree of risk it is willing to accept, given the government's unique circumstances.

As is the case with many Road Commissions of similar size, the Road Commission lacks a sufficient number of accounting personnel in order to ensure a complete segregation of duties within its accounting function. Ideally, no single individual should ever be able to authorize a transaction, record the transaction in the accounting records, and maintain custody of the assets resulting from the transaction. Effectively, proper segregation of duties is intended to prevent an individual from committing an act of fraud or abuse and being able to conceal it.

The purpose of internal controls is to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are properly authorized and recorded. Any limitations on the effectiveness of a Road Commission's internal controls carries with it a greater risk of fraud and abuse.

As stated previously, the establishing and maintaining of internal controls is the responsibility of management. As the Road Commission's independent external auditors, we are specifically banned by professional standards from performing any management functions. In other words, the annual audit is not a part of the Road Commission's internal control structure, and cannot not be relied upon as part of *management's* systems to deter or detect fraud and abuse.

While there are, of course, no easy answers to the challenge of balancing the costs and benefits of internal controls and the segregation of duties, we would nevertheless encourage management to actively seek ways to further strengthen its internal control structure by requiring as much independent review, reconciliation, and approval of accounting functions by qualified members of management as possible.

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